Drawer 2 of 3

Furniture

71.2009.085.04482

Curios and Relics

Furniture

Chairs

Rocking Chair – White House

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the

Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

71.2009.085.04482

WELLS ROCKING CHAIR
CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY

Lincoln Rocking Chair Is Acquired by Library

Hartford, Conn., Jan. 6.—(U.P.)—Connecticut State Library has acquired the huge rocking chair which was a favorite of Abraham Lincoln while he was in the White House.

After Lincoln's death the chair was given to his secretary of the navy, Gideon Welles, who brought it to Hartford with him when his term ended. It changed hands several times and in 1899 its custodian was former Representative E. Hart Fenn of nearby Wethersfield.

Fenn's widow presented it to the library as a museum piece.

"It's a new discovery in Lincoln memorabilia," James Brewster, state librarian, said. "This is the first time the Lincoln Piazza Chair has passed out of private hands."

The Connecticut collections now includes another chair used by the martyred President, the table on which he signed the Emancipation proclamation, a death mask, several keys to Libby Prison and a small copper candleabra which stood beside Lincoln's bier following his assassination.

Lincoln Chair Goes To State Library

1940

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From: A.J.LIVINSON, Esq.
Montreal, Canada.

New York Herald Tribune,
Sunday, January 28, 1940.

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